United Nations S/PV.5465

Security Council

Sixty-first year

Provisional

5465th meeting

Thursday, 15 June 2006, 3.20 p.m.

New York

President:	Ms. Løj	(Denmark)
Members:	Argentina	Mr. García Moritán
	China	Mr. Li Junhua
	Congo	Mr. Makayat-Safouesse
	France	Mr. De La Sablière
	Ghana	Mr. Yankey
	Greece	Mr. Vassilakis
	Japan	Mr. Kitaoka
	Peru	Mr. Pérez
	Qatar	Mr. Al-Bader
	Russian Federation	Mr. Dolgov
	Slovakia	Mr. Burian
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Sir Emyr Jones Parry
	United Republic of Tanzania	Mrs. Taj
	United States of America	Mr. Brencick

Agenda

The situation in Cyprus

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations operation in Cyprus (S/2006/315)

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06-39055 (E)

The meeting was called to order at 3.20 p.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation in Cyprus

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations operation in Cyprus (S/2006/315)

The President: The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda. The Council is meeting in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations.

Members of the Council have before them the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations operation in Cyprus, document S/2006/315.

Members also have before them document S/2006/393, which contains the text of a draft resolution submitted by China, France, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

It is my understanding that the Council is ready to proceed to the vote on the draft resolution before it.

I should like to inform the Council that, in my capacity as President of the Council, I met with the representatives of the parties, who have confirmed to me that they maintain their well-known positions vis-à-vis the item on the Council's agenda. On the basis of those meetings, as President, with the consent of members of the Council, I have drawn the conclusion that the Council can proceed to take a decision on the draft resolution before it.

Unless I hear any objection, I shall put the draft resolution to the vote now.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

A vote was taken by show of hands.

In favour:

Argentina, China, Congo, Denmark, France, Ghana, Greece, Japan, Peru, Qatar, Russian Federation, Slovakia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America

The President: There were 15 votes in favour. The draft resolution has been adopted unanimously as resolution 1687 (2006).

I shall now give the floor to those members of the Council who wish to make statements following the voting.

Mr. Vassilakis (Greece): My delegation has just voted in favour of resolution 1687 (2006), which extends the mandate of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus for a further six-month period, because it considers that the presence of the Peacekeeping Force on the island continues to be indispensable and imperative owing to the continuing presence of approximately 40,000 Turkish troops on the island and the security threat that that represents for international peace and security.

There is no doubt that it is our common wish and desire around this table that a just and permanent solution be found to the problem of Cyprus on the basis of Security Council resolutions so that the island can be reunified and the two communities can enjoy a common future, to the benefit of the maintenance of peace and security both on the island and in the region.

The Secretary-General is about to dispatch the Under-Secretary-General of Political Affairs to the region in an attempt to strengthen the ongoing efforts on the ground and to assess the political situation in and around Cyprus and the prospects for a full resumption of his good offices mission with the two communities. We regret to note, however, that the text adopted here today unfortunately does not convey a sufficiently clear and strong message as to the basis, the scope and the objectives of United Nations efforts for a fair and lasting settlement of the problem of Cyprus.

That is why Greece had insisted on the need to clarify, in the sixth preambular paragraph — in which the Council urges "progress towards the resumption of negotiations for a comprehensive settlement" — that it should be reaffirmed that those negotiations have to take place between the two communities.

The President: There are no more speakers on my list.

The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda.

The meeting rose at 3.25 p.m.